

TOWN OF MERRILLVILLE
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
July 24, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: 6:30 p.m.

INVOCATION: Pastor Bob Szoke, Impact Christian Church

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Mr. Pettit was absent. All other members were present.

PETITIONS, COMMUNICATIONS, ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS AND REMONSTRATIONS:

Mr. Hardaway read a letter from the Veteran of Foreign Wars requesting the Town Council to waive Building Permit Fees. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to waive the building permit fees and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for the St. Sava Serb Festival. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. No discussion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

The Town received a request for approval of a large gathering permit for the 7th Annual Sanctified Souls Ride 4 a Cure. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. No discussion. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

Clerk Treasurer Eugene Guernsey gave the Oath and provided the Swearing in of the following Police Officers:

Marc R. Novak

Ryan K. Kijurna

Benjamin J. Tomko

The Town Council congratulated and welcomed the new Police Officers.

Mr. Hardaway said the Town Council has been invited on August 15th at MIS for the back to school program welcoming students back. Mr. Hardaway said he is opening this invitation to all departments. Mr. Hardaway said it's our way of showing we encourage education and support the community and school corporation.

The Town of Merrillville recognized Café Stelios with a Commitment of Excellence Award for the most appealing facade for the month of July. Mr. Guernsey presented a plaque to Café Stelios in recognition of this honor; he also complimented the establishment on what a nice job they had done decorating the building.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of the Accounts Payable Register Voucher dated July 24, 2018. Approval of Town Council Meeting Minutes of July 10, 2018. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Spann. There was no discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

BUDGET & FINANCE:

Mr. Pettit had no report.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Mr. Minchuk reported that the tracks on Madison will be opened to traffic on Tuesday July 25th.

COUNCIL AFFAIRS:

Ms. LaMarca had no report.

PERSONNEL POLICY & EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Mrs. Barron had no report.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Ms. LaMarca referred to Jan Orlich for a report. Ms. Orlich said the playground equipment for Hendricks Park has arrived. Ms. Orlich said she is currently scheduling with Public Works for the removal of the old equipment and installation of the new.

Mrs. Uzelac thanked Mr. Spires and Ms. Orlich for the sign she requested for Hendricks Park that was put back up and included the rules for the park

Ms. Orlich said she is preparing for the Pruzin Park Summer Concert that will be held on Friday July 27th at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Orlich said the concert will feature Solid Players, Together and Latin Satin Soul. Ms. Orlich said to bring your lawn chairs for a great time.

Mrs. Barron made a motion for the Town Manager and Town attorney to approve the Purchase Agreement for the property located on 67th and Broadway. Ms. LaMarca seconds the motion. No discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Mr. Minchuk requested for Ms. Orlich to have a brick wall painted located at Stephan Park. Ms. Orlich said yes to the request.

ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS:

Mr. Barron had no report and referred to Mr. Lake for a report. Mr. Lake reported that he attending the Calumet River Base and Development Commission meeting and submitted an application to cover the cost for the final engineering for a water project. Mr. Lake said they did approve that request and thanked the Calumet River Base Commission for approving the request.

ELECTIONS & PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Mrs. Uzelac had no report.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Mr. Laird said he would like the Town Council to add the Petitioners L & M Ventures Storage to the Amended Agenda. Mrs. Barron made a motion to add the Petitioner and was seconded by Mr. Minchuk. No discussion. The motion was approved by a unanimous voice vote. Petitioner presented to the Town Council. Discussion followed.

Ms. LaMarca made a motion to approve hours of operation for L & M Ventures. Mrs. Barron seconded the motion. No discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

UTILITY LIAISON:

Mr. Spann had no report.

ABANDONED PROPERTIES:

President Hardaway said the Town Council Awarded Ryan Construction for the Demolition of the Old Mill Restaurant. Mr. Minchuk made a motion to approve and was seconded by Mrs. Barron. Discussion followed. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

GENERAL ORDERS:

FIRST READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-15:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the GO Bond Fund for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Mrs. Uzelac made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-16:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, depleting monies of the 2018 budget within certain funds mandated by the Department of Local Government Finance. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

Ord. 18-17:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, authorizing the issuance of general obligation bond for the purpose of providing funds to pay for certain capital projects and incidental expenses in connection therewith and on account of the issuance of the bonds. Appropriating the proceeds, thereof, and all matters related thereto. Mrs. Barron made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

SECOND READING ORDINANCES:

Ord. 18-14:

An Ordinance of the Town of Merrillville, Lake County, Indiana, appropriating additional monies within the Rental Registration Fund for the year 2018 not included in the current budget. Ms. LaMarca made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Mr. Spann. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS:

Res. 18-19:

A Resolution making a preliminary determination to issue general obligation bonds of the Town of Merrillville, Indiana. Mr. Spann made a motion to approve the ordinance and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca. There was no public comment or discussion. The motion carried by a 6-0 roll call vote.

BZA ACTIONS:

None

OLD BUSINESS:

Mrs. Uzelac said she received a phone call from Mr. Hardaway that a dog in the 4th ward who had several incidents was finally put down by the request of the owner.

NEW BUSINESS:

None

PUBLIC COMMENT:

All public comment is recorded on an audio file and kept on file in the Clerk-Treasurer's Office at Town Hall.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Board of Zoning Appeals meeting, July 25, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Abandoned Blighted Properties Commission meeting has been canceled.

Police Commission meeting, August 3, 2018 at 8:00 a.m.

Stormwater Management Board meeting, August 7, 2018 at 4:30 p.m.

National Night Out, August 7, 2018 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
(Merrillville Municipal Complex, 7820 Broadway)

National Night Out, August 7, 2018 from 6:00-8:00 p.m.
(Ward 2- Meadowland Park/ 54th & Madison)

Budget & Finance Committee meeting, August 8, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Plan Commission workshop meeting, August 8, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

Redevelopment Commission meeting, August 14, 2018 at 6:15 p.m.

Dog Ordinance workshop meeting August 14, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

Town Council meeting, August 14, 2018 at 6:30 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Mrs. Mrs. Barron made a motion to adjourn and was seconded by Ms. LaMarca.

Richard Hardaway, President

Eugene Guernsey, Clerk-Treasurer